

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

North America – Climate, Vegetation, Wildlife, part 1

(Guided Reading)

from the film *North America – Climate, Vegetation, and Wildlife*, Mexus Education, Ltd.

- North America lies entirely in the Northern _____ and the width of the _____ is maximum in the _____ **latitudes** and so most of the continent lies in the _____ **zone**.

- A _____ part of North America lies _____ of the **Tropic of** _____. Southern _____, the countries of _____ America, and the _____ islands have a **sub-tropical** _____. The _____ Circle passes through the extreme _____, a region which is extremely _____. The large size of the _____ results in great extremes of _____ in most parts of the continent. Thus, the _____ are hot and _____ are cold.

- The **Western** _____ as well as the _____ **Highlands** run _____ to the coast. They cut off the _____ of the _____ from reaching the _____ to a great extent.

- Ocean _____ affect the temperature and _____ along the _____ regions. The cold _____ **Current** in the northeast keeps the adjoining coast _____ in winter.

- The cool _____ **Current** in the _____ lowers the _____ along the coast. Winds blowing over this _____ get cooled and so pick up _____ moisture and bring little _____.

- The warm _____ **Current** in the northwest warms the _____ coastal regions. Winds _____ over these currents are also _____ and so their ability to absorb _____ increases. These winds bring heavy _____ throughout the year.

- The **Great** _____ are like the ocean. French _____, gazing across a seemingly _____ horizon of water in the 17th century, thought they had found the ocean. They called them "_____ Seas".

- In the Great Lakes _____ cluster the heaviest _____ of _____. Large quantities of _____ are found here. The lake _____ provide inexpensive _____. Large _____ ships can reach the _____ since the lakes are connected to the _____ Ocean by the St. Lawrence _____.

North America can be _____ into ten _____ **regions**.

The Tundra

- The first such climatic region is the _____ region. The extreme _____ part of North America that lies beyond the _____ has very cold _____ conditions. It includes the northern coast of _____ and the northern _____.

- In this region, _____ are long and very cold, while _____ are short and cool. _____ is scanty and most of the _____ is in the form of snow.
- The _____ here is sparse as the ground remains _____ throughout the year. **Mosses** and _____ grow here. This kind of _____ can withstand extreme _____ and survive on very little moisture. It can also remain alive under _____.
- During the short _____, the land looks bright with _____. In some places, stunted **shrubs** are also seen. Trees cannot _____ here because the surface is _____ in winter and the subsoil remains permanently _____.
- _____ that are found here usually _____ fur outside and a woolly _____ to keep them warm. The Arctic Fox, for instance, has _____ fur in summer, but it turns _____ in winter. Thick layers of _____ give additional _____ as well as providing food _____ for winter.
- The _____ is the most important _____ of the tundra. It is well _____ to the severe cold of the _____ region. Its thick hair and the air cells in each hair makes an excellent _____ against the cold.
- The long and flat _____ of the _____ are suitable for _____ across the snow and also for _____ in the snow for buried _____. The reindeer also provides _____

and milk. Its skin is used for _____ and tents, and bones as _____ and other _____. The internal _____ of the reindeer provide _____ and salts needed by the _____ body.

- The other common _____ are the musk ox, the _____ bear, _____, _____, and the blue _____.
- Whales, _____, seals, and _____ are also found in the seas _____ the coast.

The Taiga

- The second type of _____ region found here is the _____ or **Coniferous** _____ Belt. This _____ forms a belt from the _____ coast in the west to the _____ coast immediately south of the _____. It includes _____ and most of _____.
- In this region, the _____ are very cold and _____ and last for about _____ months. The _____ are warm and _____. Most of the _____ is in the form of snow.
- The _____ consists of _____ trees. These are _____ trees, i.e. they do not shed all their leaves each year.
- A coniferous tree bears _____ cones, hence the name _____. Since the trees are _____ in shape, the snow _____ off its branches easily, _____ damage to the trees.

- The leaves are _____ -shaped, and so the loss of _____ through _____ is reduced, since the surface area of the leaf is _____. Hence, they are able to _____ the long winter when _____ and nutrients are not easily _____.
- The common trees found here are the _____, fir, _____, and _____. They are _____ to survive the _____ long winters.
- The _____ forests are of great _____ importance. Large _____ of a single kind of _____ grow together. In other words, trees grow in _____ strands, making _____ operations easy.
- There is little _____ to hinder _____ since the ground _____ and so plants with short roots cannot _____.
- During _____, which is the season for _____, the ice and snow make it easy to _____ the logs of wood.
- Coniferous trees yield _____ which is used to _____ paper, _____, doors, windows, _____, sporting goods, toys, and _____.

The Prairies

- Prairies are extensively _____. Large _____ of maize, wheat, _____, and _____ are grown here.

- There are very few _____ in this region and most of them are _____. The beaver, _____, fox, _____, skunk, and _____ yield fur. Caribou, _____, moose, _____, as well as brown, _____, and grizzly _____ are common.
- The _____ and **streams** here are full of _____. Birds like the _____ and _____ are also found here.
- The climatic region of the _____ or the **Temperate** _____ is found in the interior _____ in the heart of the _____. South-central _____ and most of the central USA comes under the _____ of this type of _____. This region has _____ of temperature since it is far away from the _____ influence of the sea. Such a climate is also known as the _____ type of climate.
- Winters are very _____ with plenty of _____, while the _____ are quite hot. Rainfall is _____ and mostly occurs in the _____ season. It decreases from east to _____.
- Coyotes, _____, rabbits, _____, _____, and prairie _____ are the major _____ that are found here. Bison (American _____) is the most _____ animal for the _____ and once _____ this region. It became almost _____ due to indiscriminate _____, but is now a _____ animal.